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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiaki OKUI

Group Art Unit: 2838

Application No.: 10/784,193

Examiner: P. TIBBITS

Filed: February 24, 2004

Docket No.: 118827

For: UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY DEVICE WITH CIRCUIT FOR
DEGRADATION JUDGMENT OF STORAGE BATTERY

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 6, 2006 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group II, claims 2 and 12-20, with traverse.

As admitted by the September 6, 2006 Restriction Requirement, both alleged Groups of claims are directed to "an uninterruptible power supply device for supplying power to a load and charging floatingly to a storage battery from a converter connecting to an alternating current power source, with the degradation judgment circuit of the storage battery." The only differences cited by the Restriction Requirement are that Group I has a judgment circuit which judges degradation of the storage battery based on the discharge voltage of the limited discharge current and Group II has a judgment circuit which judges degradation of the storage battery based on a charging time of the storage battery.

Because the definition for both Groups as set out in the Restriction Requirement is the same for multiple points of structure, differing only in the manner in which the degradation is judged, Applicant submits the complete search area for both Groups will be coextensive.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:JHB/dks
Date: September 29, 2006

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